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## Sweet Dreams and Nightmares

Ronald Reagan's sleeping habits have surfaced in the news once again. During his recent swing through Europe, the president nodded before the pope and slumbered through a bungled United Nations vote on the Falkland crisis. Alexander Haig faced a quizzical press to explain why he had failed to wake the president. It's enough to put anyone to sleep.

The continual scrutiny of Reagan's personal habits is tiring. Indignant talk of Nancy's dresses and White House china induces yawns. The trappings of the imperial presidency need no further examination; its policies do.

Reagan promised a balanced budget and gave us the largest deficit in history. He promised trickle-down economics that creates jobs, jobs, jobs. It created trickle-up unemployment. He pledged to get government off our backs, yet he supports legislation to give the CIA and FBI greater freedom to spy on us, and he promotes government regulation of a woman's right to choose abortion. Reagan claims to be a friend of business, yet his policies have pushed the rate of business failures to its highest since the Depression. His promise of a secure America lies tangled amid Cold War rhetoric and an arms policy that flirts with nuclear conflict.

The effects of the president's policies are eye-opening. America is waking up to Reagan and should follow the example of Haig: let him sleep.

—Peter M. Winkert